ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to p21 derived peptides capable of inhibiting CDK/cyclin complexes, particularly cyclins A or E/CDK2, by modifying the interaction with their substrates. The peptides are derived from a C-terminal region of p21 and display selectivity for cyclin/CDK2 inhibition over cyclin/CDK4 inhibition. Variants of such peptides particularly involving certain alanine replacements are shown to be particularly potent.